

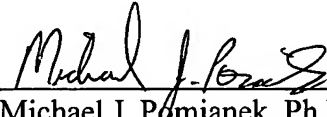
REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of this preliminary amendment. Applicants have amended the specification to update the "Related Application" section to reflect the issuance of U.S. Application 10/262,274 as U.S. Patent No. 6,669,710. Applicants have also added claims 2-18 to further define the invention. As a result, claims 1-18 are pending for examination with claim 1 being the sole independent claim. No new matter has been added.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

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